

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 30, 38, and 46, as indicated below.

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating a request for quotes from a plurality of request for quote (RFQ) providers, comprising:

receiving user data in an RFQ enrollment system, the user data including information related to a user and information related to at least one quote desired by the user;

receiving quote provider data from each of the plurality of RFQ providers in the RFQ enrollment system, the quote provider data including information related to quotes that can be provided by each RFQ provider, wherein each of the plurality of RFQ providers requests quotes from a plurality of suppliers and sends quotes to a plurality of users;

registering the user, using the information related to the user, with the RFQ enrollment system;

transmitting the user data to the plurality of RFQ providers;

enrolling the user with the plurality of RFQ providers using the information related to the user, prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers;

sending a first notification of enrollment to the user from the RFQ enrollment system and a second notification of enrollment to the user from at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers, after enrollment at the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers and prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers, wherein the second

notification of enrollment includes a request for user profiling information that will not be shared with the RFQ enrollment system;

sending the user profiling information from the user to the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers by bypassing the RFQ enrollment system;

soliciting at least one quote from a supplier based on the at least one quote desired by the user; and

receiving at least one quote from at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers or the supplier based at least in part on the information related to the at least one quote desired by the user.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, further comprising:  
providing to the user a confirmation of the registration of the user with the RFQ enrollment system.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, further comprising:  
receiving a confirmation of the enrollment of the user with at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 32, further comprising:  
providing to the user the confirmation of the enrollment of the user with the plurality of RFQ providers.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, further comprising:  
providing to the user the at least one quote from the at least one of the plurality of  
RFQ providers.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, further comprising:  
billing the user if the user accepts the at least one quote from the at least one of  
the plurality of RFQ providers.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, further comprising  
requesting additional information from the user to be provided to at least one of the plurality of  
RFQ providers in reply to a request by the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers for the  
additional information.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, further comprising:  
receiving information related to the plurality of RFQ providers; and  
registering the plurality of RFQ providers, using the information related to the  
plurality of RFQ providers, with the RFQ enrollment system.

38. (Currently Amended) An RFQ enrollment system for facilitating a request  
for quotes from a plurality of request for quote (RFQ) providers, comprising:  
a web server operable to:  
allow a user to input and transmit user data, the user data including  
information related to a user and information related to at least one quote desired by the user, and

allow each of the plurality of RFQ providers, each of which requests quotes from a plurality of suppliers and sends quotes to a plurality of users, to input and transmit quote provider data, the quote provider data including information related to quotes that can be provided by each RFQ provider;

an application server operable to:

receive the user data,

receive the quote provider data,

register the user, using the information related to the user, with the RFQ enrollment system,

transmit the user data to the plurality of RFQ providers,

enroll the user with the plurality of RFQ providers using the information related to the user, prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers,

send a first notification of enrollment to the user after enrollment with at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers and prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers, and

receive at least one quote from at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers or a supplier based at least in part on the information related to the at least one quote desired by the user;

wherein the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers sends a second notification of enrollment to the user, after enrollment with the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers and prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers, the second notification of enrollment including a request for user profiling information that will not be shared with the RFQ enrollment system,

wherein the user profiling information is sent from the user to the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers by bypassing the RFQ enrollment system, and

wherein the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers solicits at least one quote from the supplier based on the at least one quote desired by the user.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38, wherein the application server is further operable to provide to the user, via the web server, a confirmation of the registration of the user with the RFQ enrollment system.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38, wherein the application server is further operable to receive a confirmation of the enrollment of the user with the plurality of RFQ providers.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 40, wherein the application server is further operable to provide to the user, via the web server, a confirmation of the enrollment of the user with the plurality of RFQ providers.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38, wherein the application server is further operable to provide to the user, via the web server, the at least one quote from the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the application server is further operable to bill the user if the user accepts the at least one quote from the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38, wherein the application server is further operable to request additional information from the user to be provided to at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38, wherein the application server is further operable to receive information related to the plurality of RFQ providers, and to register the plurality of RFQ providers, using the information related to the plurality of RFQ providers, with the RFQ enrollment system.

46. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating a request for quotes from a plurality of request for quote (RFQ) providers, comprising:

means for receiving (1) user data in an RFQ enrollment system, the user data including information related to a user and information related to at least one quote desired by the user, and (2) quote provider data in the RFQ enrollment system, the quote provider data including information related to quotes that can be provided by each RFQ provider;

means for registering the user, using the information related to the user, with the RFQ enrollment system;

means for transmitting the user data to the plurality of RFQ providers, wherein each of the plurality of RFQ providers requests quotes from a plurality of suppliers and sends quotes to a plurality of users;

means for enrolling the user with the plurality of RFQ providers using the information related to the user, prior to receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers;

means for sending a first notification of enrollment to the user from the RFQ enrollment system and a second notification of enrollment to the user from at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers, after enrollment at the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers and prior to the user receiving any quotes from the plurality of RFQ providers, wherein the second notification of enrollment includes a request for user profiling information that will not be shared with the RFQ enrollment system;

means for sending the user profiling information from the user to the at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers by bypassing the RFQ enrollment system;

means for soliciting at least one quote from a supplier based on the at least one quote desired by the user; and

means for receiving at least one quote from at least one of the plurality of RFQ providers or the supplier based at least in part on the information related to the at least one quote desired by the user.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, further comprising:  
means for providing to the user a confirmation of the registration of the user with the RFQ enrollment system.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, further comprising:  
means for receiving a confirmation of the enrollment of the user with at least one  
of the plurality of RFQ providers.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, further comprising:  
means for providing to the user the confirmation of the enrollment of the user  
with the plurality of RFQ providers.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, further comprising:  
means for providing to the user the at least one quote from the at least one of the  
plurality of RFQ providers.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 50, further comprising:  
means for billing the user if the user accepts the at least one quote from the at  
least one of the plurality of RFQ providers.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, further comprising:  
means for requesting additional information from the user to be provided to at  
least one of the plurality of RFQ providers in reply to a request by the at least one of the plurality  
of RFQ providers for the additional information.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, further comprising:  
means for receiving information related to the plurality of RFQ providers; and  
means for registering the plurality of RFQ providers, using the information related  
to the plurality of RFQ providers, with the RFQ enrollment system.